Purchase Agreement with Private Oil Refineries

407. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector oil companies entered into a purchasing agreement with private oil refineries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Indian Oil Corporation had proposed agreements with Reliance Petroleum Limited and Essar Oil Limited in regard to the marketing of controlled products of their refineries for Government approval. The proposal was examined by the Government and IOC was asked to effect certain changes in the agreements including sharing of the controlled products among the public sector oil companies viz. IOC, BPC & HPC, etc. The agreements have not yet been signed.

Investment by IOC to participate in share swap in petroleum sector

408. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how much fund is proposed to be spent by the Indian Oil Company and other major oil companies to participate in share swaps in the petroleum sector with other PSUs; and

(b) whether such investment in cross holdings of shares will not affect the expansion plans of the oil companies in respect of pipe lines, refinery capacity and provision of cleaner fuel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL" GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) proposals are as under:

Company	Amount (approx.) (Rs. Crore)
Indian Oil Corporation	2568.66
Oil & Natural Gas Corporation	1642.03
Gas Authority of India Ltd.	500.00
TOTAL	4710.69

(b) No, Sir.

Investment by Oil Companies to buy oilfields Abroad

409. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IOC and the ONGC are planning to buy up oilfields abroad;

(b) if so, the amount of investment likely to be made in such purchases in the coming fiscal year;

(c) whether the companies have computed the unit cost of crude to be made available out of these oilfields after taking into account the capital and operational costs; and

(d) if so, what the computed costs per barrel are?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Acquisition of equity oil abroad is one of the objective pursued by the two companies.

(b) and (c) The specific investment proposals would depend on size of opportunity, its possible potential, availability of infrastructure and other operational aspects. The cost cannot be